

Dear FCC:

I OPPOSE the proposed rule changes that would allow greater consolidation within media markets. This will reduce innovation and inhibit the freedom of expression so necessary for the media to serve the public interest. Even Ted Turner, one of the biggest media moguls there has ever been, understands this and opposes it. He says he would not have been able to create the innovations in television that he did under the proposed new rules. Opposing this is not really in his personal financial interest at this point, yet he understands that it is in the public interest - the proposed deregulation goes too far. Surely there are better, more careful ways to update the rules, if some of them are out of date, than to make such a broad-brush giveaway to a few big media giants. The airwaves are public property, not private, and should be managed accordingly.

I urge you to reject the proposed changes as they stand and develop a new approach that will better balance the public's interest with the private sector's, given modern conditions.

Thank you for providing this forum for feedback.
Dr. Michael E. Colby